CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication:	received_357340148048056.jpeg
Other known title(s):	Not stated
OFLC ref:	1800572.006
Medium:	Image File
Publisher:	Not stated
Country of origin:	Not stated
Language:	English
Applicant:	New Zealand Defence Force Military Police
Classification:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 16 years.
Descriptive note:	None
Display conditions:	None
Date of entry in Register:	20 March 2019
Date of direction to issue a label:	No direction to issue a label has been issued
Date of notice of decision:	19 March 2019

Summary of reasons for decision:

The image file is a meme that makes a coarse, inexplicit joke about a children's television character performing a sexual act. Society perceives harm in exposing children and younger teenagers to sexual material of this type before they are developmentally ready to process it. Older teenagers and adults are presumed to have the necessary maturity to contextualise the humour involved and may well regard the image as being in poor taste. The restriction applied to this image interferes with the right to freedom of expression affirmed by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, but is a reasonable limitation on that right in order to prevent injury to the public good.